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ACTION EA 15

INFO GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04, CIA 04,
DOD 01, SP 02, SS 20, NSA 02, SAH 03, SAL 01, AID 30, IO 21, RSR 01,
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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RDS ☐ or XGDS ☐ EXT. DATE
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E.O. 12356 EXEMPTIONS ☐
DECLASSIFY ☐ RELEASE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

P R 281100Z OCT 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9857
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4791
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG 1267
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2941

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJ: LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS: REVISED VOTE TOTALS
IN GIA DINH I RESULT IN CHANGE IN WINNERS

REF: A. SAIGON 9424
B. SAIGON 9289

(1) 1. REFTELS REPORTED VOTE TOTALS AND ORDER OF FINISH FOR WINNERS IN GIA DINH I AND GIA DINH II BASED ON SURVEY OF PRELIMINARY POSTINGS AT DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS. UNLIKE OTHER PROVINCES, "OFFICIAL-INITIAL" RESULTS FROM GIA

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DINH WERE NOT [illegible]D AT PROVINCE HEADQUARTERS UNTIL AFTER

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LOCAL ELECTIONS COUNCILS MET ON OCT 26. (SPECIAL COMMISSARIAT FOR ADMINISTRATION DID, HOWEVER, ANNOUNCE ORDER OF FINISH AS REPORTED REFTELS.)

2. RECHECK OF THE VOTE HAS RESULTED IN CHANGE IN ORDER OF FINISH IN GIA DINH I WITH PHAM CHI THIEN REPLACING NGUYEN VAN HIEN IN SIXTH PLACE AND AS WINNER. THERE ARE ALSO SEVERAL OTHER CHANGES IN VOTE TOTALS AMONG SOME OF THE OTHER WINNERS. FINAL FINISHERS AND VOTE TOTALS AS RELEASED BY PROVINCIAL HEADQUARTERS ON OCT 27 FOLLOW:

GIA DINH I:
TRAN QUI PHONG: WAS 23,383, NOW 23391
KHONG TRUNG LUU: WAS 17,412, NOW 17,567
DUONG MINH KINH: WAS 17,153 NOW 17,235
NGUEYN QUANG LUYEN: WAS 15,867, NOW 15,866
DO TRONG NGUEYEN: WAS 15,576, NOW 15,639
PHAM CHI THIEN, WAS 14,360, NOW 14,776.

GIA DINH II:

LE-NINH: NO CHANGE FROM 15,657
PHAM DUY TUE: WAS 15,537, NOW 15,557

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NGUYEN HUU PHOI: WAS 13,355 NOW 13,335
PHAN HUY DUC: NO CHANGE FROM 13,031
NGUYEN-HUU DUC: NO CHANGE FROM 12,994

3. NGUEYN VAN HIEN, A CATHOLIC, ENJOYED ENDORSEMENT OF GREATER SOLIDARITY FORCES. ALL WE KNOW OF THIEN IS THAT HE WAS BORN IN THAI BINH, NORTH VIETNAM, ON MAY 25, 1931, AND IS LISTED AS A CIVIL SERVANT.

4. WE HAVE NOTED TWO COMPLAINTS IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS ABOUT THE ELECTIONS IN GIA DINH. ONE CONCERNED AN ALLEGED BALLOT-STUFFING BY POLLING PLACE OFFICIALS IN PHU NHUAN VILLAGE, GIA DINH I. THE OTHER WAS PETITION DRAWN UP BY 31 LOSING CANDIDATES ALSO IN GIA DINH I WHO DEMANDED AN INVESTIGATION OF

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THE ELECTION BECAUSE IT "SMELLED OF MONEY". WE DO NOT KNOW TO WHAT EXTENT THESE COMPLAINTS WERE FORMALLY CONSIDERED BY THE LOCAL ELECTION COUNCIL OR WHETHER THE REVISED VOTE TOTALS HAVE ANY CONNECTION WITH EITHER OF THESE ALLEGATIONS. HOWEVER, LOCAL ELECTION COUNCIL APPEARS TO HAVE AGREED THAT THE RESULTS AS NOW POSTED ARE VALID.

5. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF COMPLAINTS BEING FILED BEFORE LOCAL ELECTION COUNCILS IN QUANG NGAI, KHANH HOA, PHUOC TUY,

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AND KIEN GIANG, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT OTHER COMPLAINTS HAVE BEEN LODGED AS WELL. WE KNOW OF NO OTHER CHANGES IN THE ORDER OF FINISHERS, HOWEVER.

6. IT IS OF COURSE NOW UP TO THE LOWER HOUSE ITSELF TO PASS ON THE VALIDTY OF THE ELECTION OF ITS MEMBERS.

BUNKER

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